

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 96-249-C - ORDER NO. 2002-546

JULY 25, 2002

IN RE: Application of Sprint Payphone Services, Inc. ) ORDER  
for Waiver of the Commission's Payphone ) GRANTING  
Service Provider (PSP) Guideline, which ) WAIVER  
Requires Payphones to be Connected to a )  
Certified Local Exchange Carrier with a )  
Separate Access Line Designated and Tariffed )  
for such Purposes. )

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Sprint Payphone Services, Inc. (Sprint or the Company) for a waiver of the Commission's Payphone Service Provider Guideline, which requires pay telephones to be connected to a Certified Local Exchange Carrier with a separate access line designated and tariffed for such purposes. In association with the provision of payphones in inmate facilities, Sprint requests waiver of the guideline which disallows line concentrations on inmate payphones.

Pursuant to the instructions of the Commission's Executive Director, the Company published a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation, and furnished affidavits of publication. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received in the matter. We will proceed to rule on this matter without a hearing, since the proposal is not part of a general rate case and does not affect the Company's general body of subscribers. See S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-540(A) (Supp. 2001).

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Sprint states that, after several months of utilization studies, it is confident that line concentration would not adversely affect the grade of service that the Department of Corrections would receive for the inmate phone service. The Sprint studies also show that at peak calling hours, the grade of service provided would meet the RFP requirements, according to Sprint. A review of the studies cited appears to verify Sprint's claims in this matter. We also believe that line concentrations on inmate pay telephones do present certain economic advantages for the Company.

Accordingly, we grant waiver at this time of our Payphone Service Provider Guidelines 19 and 20, which require a separate access line for each payphone and disallow the connection of a payphone behind a PBX concentrator or other similar arrangement, based on good cause.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

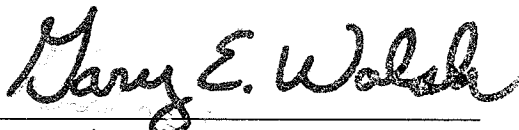
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



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Chairman

ATTEST:



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Executive Director

(SEAL)